

# Duxbury's man of many maps

Kylander's collection numbers more than 200

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Upon entering Clarence (Ky) Kylander's Duxbury home, his love of antique maps is obvious.

Along the walls are framed maps from all over the world, some dating back to the 1500s. Having lived in Duxbury for the past 39 years, he has a particular interest in maps of the New England coastal area.

Yet although Kylander now owns a collection of more than 200 antique maps, his passion for maps was only ignited when he retired from his medical practice.

The Pittsburgh native decided in high school to pursue a career in medicine, and went on to attend the University of Pittsburgh as a pre-med student in 1952. He graduated from medical school at the University of Minnesota and set up a surgical residency before being drafted into the military.

He served in Germany from 1962 to 1964. It was there that he

**"I like these old maps and seeing what they show and don't show. I love traveling and bringing them home from different places. There are always maps I hope to find."**

Clarence (Ky) Kylander

was assigned to work with an ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist after only having two years of surgical training. When he returned to the United States, Kylander began his ENT residency at the Leahy Clinic, which was then in Boston. He completed his residency in 1967.

Two years later, Kylander and his wife Rudie moved to Duxbury, where they built the home that they've lived in ever since. For the next 36 years, Kylander worked as an ENT specialist in several different New England hospitals and clinics.

In 1989, Kylander bought his first two maps while on vacation in Hamilton, Bermuda, and that launched his desire to begin collecting.

"We went to a shop called Pegasus," he said. "That's where I bought the first two maps of my

collection. Both were maps of the New England coastal area from the 1700s."

When he returned from the vacation, Kylander quickly began buying more maps that interested him. He studied and researched the history of maps and mapmaking and started attending auctions. In 1999, with the help of a friend, he created his Web site, [snugharbormaps.com](http://snugharbormaps.com), through which he sells maps, atlases and prints from his extensive collection, with prices ranging from \$25 to \$2500.

On the site Kylander writes: "...with a natural interest in sailing, history and geography, the beauty and story behind antique maps, prints and atlases became a major interest to me some 10 years ago."

His collection includes maps from all over the world, but Kylander focuses on maps of the New England area. One of his favorite maps is of Plymouth Harbor in 1775, made by the mapmaker for the British Army.

"For years I've been going to different antique shops and auctions like the Duxbury Maritime

School annual auction to find maps to add to my collection," said Kylander, who is a member of six different map collectors' societies, including the Phillips Society of the Library of Congress and the Washington Map Society, both of which hold conferences in Washington.

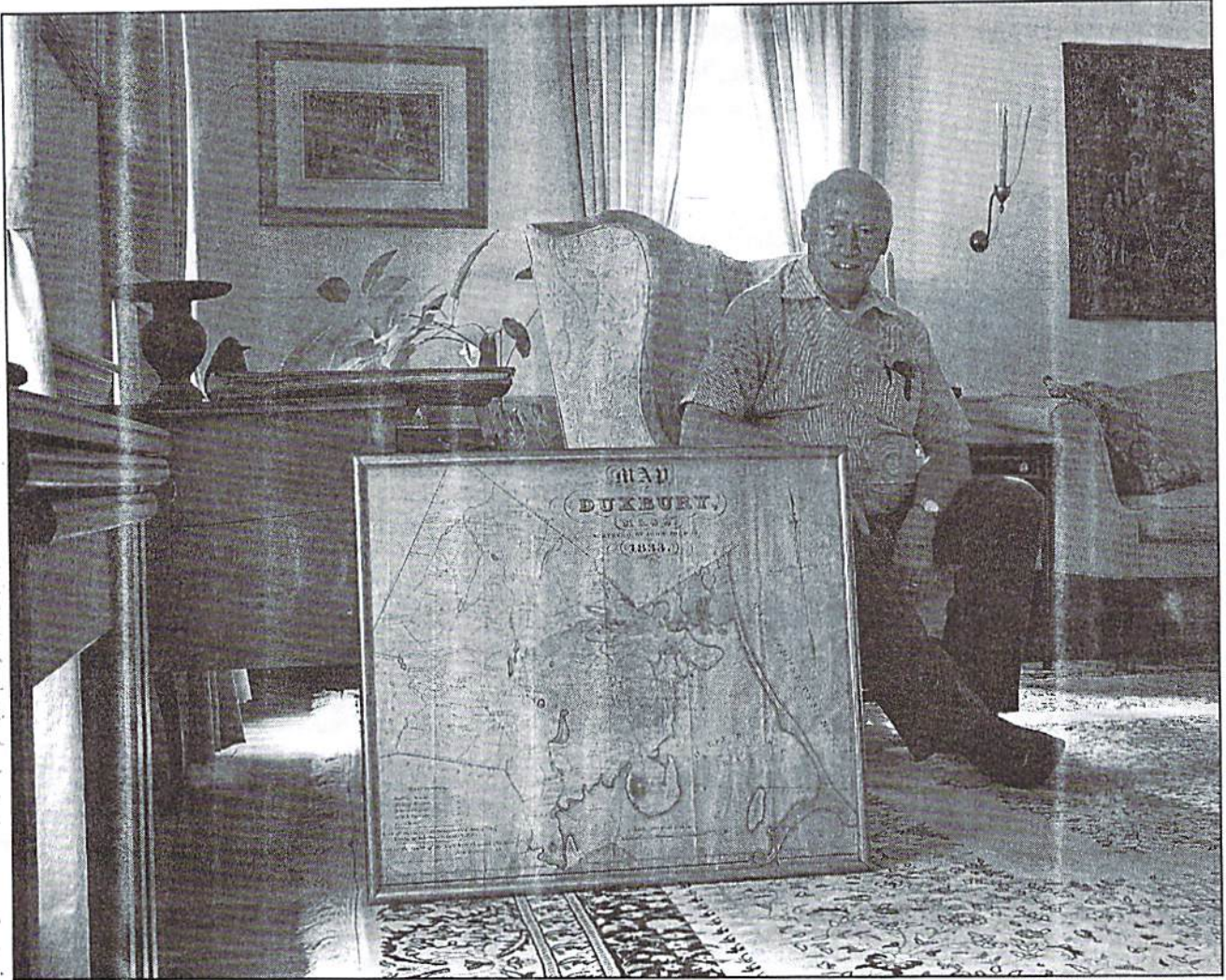
As vice president of the Boston Maps Society and the executive director of the Society of the History of Discoveries, Kylander has been to conventions in New Orleans, Portland and Williamsburg. Last year, Kylander and his wife attended the International Map Collectors' Society convention in Guatemala.

"I'm also a member of the International Conference of the History of Cartography, which is mostly made up of academicians. I've been to conferences in places like Denver and Budapest," said Kylander, who has written reviews and reports on different books of exploration for a number of the societies.

Despite traveling across the country and even overseas to hear lectures about different maps and the history of world exploration, Kylander still enjoys returning to his home in Duxbury.

"I like these old maps and seeing what they show and don't show," said Kylander. "I love traveling and bringing them home from different places. There are always maps I hope to find."





STAFF PHOTO/CHRIS BERNSTEIN

Ky Kylander with his large Ford map of Duxbury from approximately 1883.